



# MAX SF NEWSLETTER

## May 2022

Dear MAX Members and Friends,

We have a number of interesting, varied events coming up! We hope to see you at one of them.

### San Francisco Silent Film Festival

**Thursday, May 5. Meet 6:15 pm for 7:00 pm show.** Join MAX for the opening night of the San Francisco Silent Film Festival at the Castro Theater where we will watch the restored version of the 1922 film, "Foolish Wives." This extravagant film costed a fortune to make and features a live orchestra in the Castro Theater. The director, Erich von Stroheim, starred as the butler, Max, in the movie "Sunset Boulevard" and was known in Hollywood as "the man you love to hate." This film is about a count in Monte Carlo who charms naive women in order to swindle them out of their money, but ends up double-crossing too many women.



We will meet outside Twin Peaks Bar at 6:15 pm for the 7 pm show, so we can get in line and go in together as a group into the theater. After the film, those who wish are invited to grab a casual dinner at a restaurant in the Castro. Buy your own tickets to the film for \$25 at <https://silentfilm.org/event/foolish-wives/>. Be aware that in order to buy tickets, you may have to set up an account with a username or email and password with the SF Silent Film Festival. But you DO NOT need to become a member or pay additional fees, except for the price of the movie itself.



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To register for this event, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-4762078>  
Champions for this event are Michael Meehan at [michaeljmeehan999@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljmeehan999@gmail.com) and Bruce Cecil at [bruce.cecil@maxsf.org](mailto:bruce.cecil@maxsf.org).

## **First Friday**

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at First Friday on **May 6<sup>th</sup>** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **Tequila Tasting Fiesta**

**Saturday, May 7, 5:00-8:00 pm.** Join us for a Mexican-themed MAX Cinco de Mayo "Fiesta" on Siete de Mayo. The exact location will be sent to all who register, but the host site is a beautiful penthouse near Coit Tower in Telegraph Hill. The place has a gorgeous rooftop garden (weather permitting) with panoramic views overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island and the Bay. We will taste and judge different tequilas. Then, we also will enjoy margaritas and a delicious meal of beef and beyond-beef enchiladas, chips and salsa, guacamole, etc. This is our MAX follow-up to our fabulous pre-pandemic bourbon-tasting parties, so you won't want to miss it!

To register for this event, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-4750850>. Cost is just \$35, but RSVP soon, because space is limited to 20 participants. Please be fully vaccinated. Alcohol will be served, so please drink responsibly. For more information, contact Bruce Cecil at [bruce.cecil@maxsf.org](mailto:bruce.cecil@maxsf.org)



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## Third Thursday

Third Thursday will be back at Beaux on **May 19<sup>th</sup>** from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Like the First Friday event, there is no entry fee, and the same half price drink specials apply. Look forward to seeing everyone there!

## MAX Goes to the Opera (Simulcast)

**Saturday, May 21, 9:30 am / 9:50 am.** Join MAX to watch a simulcast broadcast of the opera "Lucia di Lammermoor" at the Century 9 Theater in the Westfield San Francisco Centre (on Market Street, off Powell Street We will meet in the theater lobby at 9:30 am for the 9:50 am show. The opera is being broadcast live from the New York Metropolitan Opera. Buy your individual tickets on your own on-line at Fathom Events, <https://www.fathomevents.com/categories/performing-arts>. Tickets are \$27 for adults and \$25 for seniors.

**Optional Lunch** - After the opera, we will walk over to Neiman Marcus for an optional lunch. The cost of the lunch is extra, and will depend on your individual order. If you wish to attend the lunch, you **MUST** register at <https://maxsf.org/event-4790120> and pay a \$20 deposit for the lunch by midnight of May 18. There is no limit for the Opera, but space is limited to only 10 people for the lunch. A wait list is available for possible additional spaces. Your deposit of \$20 will be returned to you on the event day at the restaurant. We need the deposit to guarantee attendance because Neiman Marcus requires us to make a reservation. There will be no refund of this deposit for cancelations or for no-shows.

**Opera Cliff Notes:** The opera originally was set among warring clans in Scotland, but has been reset for this performance in the American Rust Belt, in order to modernize the context for the performance. The opera is most famous for the quality and vocal range of the singing. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there was an explosion of singers with large vocal ranges and the dexterity to perform very difficult notes, a style that became known as "Bel Canto." Many operas, including this one, were composed so these singers could show off their extraordinary vocal skills. But the majority of these operas are not performed today because few singers today are capable of singing Bel Canto, or do not want to risk harming their voices by singing these extraordinarily difficult notes and ranges. This performance of "Lucia



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di Lammermoor" is a very rare opportunity to hear Bel Canto. The opera is especially famous for a difficult soprano scene, in which a flute joins in a duet, and in which the soprano singer can choose either to sing the aria as it is written, or to improvise, which results in an operatic "jazz improvisation." Join MAX for this thrilling and unique opera experience!

For additional information, contact Bruce Cecil at [bruce.cecil@maxsf.org](mailto:bruce.cecil@maxsf.org) or Michael Meehan at [michaeljmeehan999@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljmeehan999@gmail.com).

## **Dinner at Jannah**

**Friday, May 20 at 5:30 pm/6:30 pm** – Join event champions, Elie Abijaoude and Jim Tom, for a delicious multi-course Middle Eastern dinner at Jannah Restaurant located at 1775 Fulton (at Masonic Ave) in San Francisco. The meal will be prix-fixe with a set menu served family style. Diners will share nine courses consisting of five appetizers, three entrees and a dessert. Entrees consist of Salmon Kebab, Kuzi (chicken) and Sambousek (vegetarian phyllo pastry). Appetizers include Falafel Pizza, Grilled Eggplant and Muhammara (roasted red pepper). For a complete description of the menu, click on the event link following below. Wine also is included and is curated by MAX member, Jerry Tusan, a local wine distributor.

*Dinner will be at 6:30 pm, but the evening starts at 5:30 pm at Jannah for wine and socializing.*

This event is only \$50/person for MAX members and \$55 for non-members, including tax and tip. Price includes wine for dinner and social hour. Reserve your spot now as this wonderful meal likely will sell out. NO REFUNDS after May 15.

To register and for more information, click on the following link: <https://maxsf.org/event-4799515> Deadline to register is May 15. Event is planned for 35 people, but a waitlist will be made available for possible additional spaces. If we reach our capacity, the restaurant likely will close for our exclusive use. For additional information, contact Jim Tom at [jim.tom@maxsf.org](mailto:jim.tom@maxsf.org).



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## Filoli in Woodside – SOLD OUT

### Event Recap

May 5 – Silent Film Festival

May 6 – First Friday

May 7 – Tequila Tasting Fiesta

May 19 – Third Thursday

May 20 – Dinner at Jannah

May 21 – Opera simulcast – Lucia di Lammermoor

June 4 – Filoli

### Other Upcoming Events

Events in the planning stages include the following activities. Upcoming newsletters will provide more details. Contact a board member to help champion an event!

June/July – Dine-about at Blind Butcher

June 25 – Frameline

Summer – Dine-about at Poesia

Summer – Miniature Golf

Summer/Fall – Thai Cooking Class

### Recap of Recent Past Events



*Dinner after First Friday* – After First Friday, a group of new and old friends extended the evening to dine at Vico Cavone in the Castro.



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*Guided Chinatown Tour and Lunch* – MAX enjoyed an interesting and informative guided tour of Chinatown, learning about its history, architecture and culture. Afterward, we enjoyed a wonderful Dim Sum lunch.



*The Unique Wine Tasting Event* – Twenty wine drinkers enjoyed tasting and rating 7 unique white wines from Slovenia, Portugal, Austria, Paso Robles, Mendocino, Italy and Argentina. Local wine representative Jerry walked everyone through the descriptions and tastings that were accompanied by ample appetizers. We thank our Max member Joel for hosting at his beautiful loft. A good time was had by all!